

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAMS

Please amend claims 1-16 as follows.

1. (currently amended) A table base, comprising:

a base having an aperture with internal threads, wherein the base may rest upon the floor;

a spider plate having an aperture with internal threads, wherein the spider plate may directly receive a table top;

a column having an external surface, a first end having threads on the external surface for engaging the internal threads of the base, and a second end having threads on the external surface for engaging the internal threads of the spider plate; and

a set screw for engaging at least one column end to the corresponding base or spider plate, wherein the set screw is oriented radially to the column end.

2. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base has a central hub surrounding the aperture.

3. (currently amended) The table base as set forth in claim 2, wherein the base has a plurality of unitary support veins extending from the central hub.

4. (currently amended) The table base as set forth in claim 3, wherein each of the plurality of unitary support veins terminates in a floor pad.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

5. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 2, wherein the central hub is adapted to receive a set screw.

6. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the spider plate has a central hub surrounding the aperture.

7. (currently amended) The table base as set forth in claim 6, wherein the spider plate has a plurality of unitary support arms extending from the central hub.

8. (currently amended) The table base as set forth in claim 7, wherein each of the plurality of unitary support arms has a plurality of screw holes for attaching the spider plate to a table top.

9. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 6, wherein the central hub is adapted to receive a set screw.

10. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base and spider plate are manufactured from cast iron.

11. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 1, wherein an adhesive is applied to the threads.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

12. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the column is a tube.

13. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 12, wherein the column is manufactured from steel.

14. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 12, wherein the column is adapted to received the set screw.

15. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 1, wherein a first set screw engages the first column end to the base and a second set screw engages the second column end to the spider plate.

16. (previously presented) The table base as set forth in claim 15, wherein the base is a unitary structure and wherein the spider plate is a unitary structure.

17. (new) The table base as set forth in claim 3, wherein each unitary support vein is of substantially equal length.

18. (new) The table base as set forth in claim 8, wherein each unitary support arm is of substantially equal length.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**